

Whole No. 150

Two inventors in Warrenton, Ill., have built a rotary engine, at a cost of less than \$75, that competent authorities claim will revolutionize motive power. They have been offered \$50,000 for the American patent, which they refuse. It is stated that the new engine will consume a gallon of oil to make 5000 revolutions a minute, which would be sufficient speed to drive a motor vehicle at the rate of 600 miles an hour.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

Indianapolis Convention Effects Union of All Parties Represented in Response to Call of the Social Democratic Party.

STATE AUTONOMY GUARANTEED.

Immediate Demands Adopted After Prolonged Debate—Headquarters Located at St. Louis—The New Constitution.

The Socialists of the United States in convention at Indianapolis added an important chapter to the history of the movement, and gave, as we firmly believe, a new impetus to Socialism in this country. In response to the call adopted by the January convention of the Social Democratic party with headquarters at Chicago, over 120 delegates representing the two main wings and four independent state and territorial organizations, assembled in Masonic Temple, Indianapolis, at 10 o'clock in the morning of July 29, and during their deliberations extending through four days and three nights, disposed of the vexed question of unity. It was the largest national convention of Socialists ever held in this country, both as to the number of individual delegates present and the grand total of organized Socialists represented. It is due each of the factions to say that the deliberations were marked by an intense desire for the welfare and advance of the cause of Socialism. The Chicago wing stood for a lasting union, and believed this could be accomplished only through state autonomy. All were anxious to keep personal questions and factional interests subordinate to the one great object of the occasion, the unification of the parties in the sole interest of a common devotion and loyalty to principles alike inseparable from the life of every delegate on the floor. This controlling passion of the assembly was unanimously evident as early as the first meeting of the credentials committee, when the members of that committee representing the Chicago wing tendered the records of National Secretary Theodore Debs to prove the validity of the claimed representation under the provisions of the call. The Springfield wing had no books; their delegates were willing to accept the word of the comrades on the other side without inspecting books and the representation they claimed was allowed.

Called to Order.

The convention was called to order promptly at 10 o'clock by Comrade J. W. Kelley of Marion, Ind., representing the Chicago wing on the committee of arrangements, who read the call issued from Chicago and Springfield, and in a few well chosen and felicitous words bade the delegates welcome and called for nominations for temporary chairman.

Comrade George D. Herron was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Comrade Philip S. Brown was chosen unanimously for temporary secretary.

On motion the convention then proceeded to elect a committee of ten on credentials, four from Chicago, four from Springfield and two from the independent organization. The result was as follows: Chicago—Thomas, Winchester, Westphal, Bennett.

Springfield—Bichter, Greenbaum, Hillquit, Hayes.

Independents—Robinson, Jacobs.

A committee on rules similarly allotted to the different parties was elected as follows:

Chicago—Stedman and Reid.

Springfield—Ivan and Harriman.

Independents—Dobbs.

Fraternized greetings were received and read from Eugene V. Debs, F. W. Ott, Laramie, Wyo.; Forward association, New York; Voice of Labor, New York; "Mother Jones," and others.

The noon hour having arrived, an adjournment was taken until 3 o'clock, when the committees were ordered to report.

When the convention reassembled the report of the committee on credentials was submitted by Comrade Morris Hillquit, showing 47 delegates from the Chicago wing, representing 1402 votes; 70 from Springfield with 4708 and 10 independents with 352 votes. During the two succeeding days the number of delegates from each party was increased, the total number represented being swelled to nearly 7000. There were delegates present from twenty states and one territory.

The report of the committee on rules brought up a debate on the question of parties voting separately on all important questions. Many of the delegates wanted all votes cast as one, but Comrade Berger in behalf of Chicago stood for a separate vote on the ground that the call required the submission of the work of the convention to a general vote of their party and members were entitled to know how delegates voted. The demand for a separate vote was finally agreed to upon the basis of a substitute offered by MacCartney of Massachusetts, accepted by Berger and unanimously adopted. "The vote by roll call on all important questions shall be taken by the parties separately; the ye and nays votes of the respective parties shall be added, and the majority and minority votes of the convention as a whole be determined; the majority vote of the whole shall be the act of the convention."

Committees were then chosen as follows:

Resolutions—Springfield party, Hoehn of Missouri; Chicago party, Kelly of Indiana; Independent, Bonds of Kentucky.

Platform—Springfield party, Hillquit, Hayes and Stedman; Chicago party, Berger, Hillquit and Westphal; Independent, Stedman.

Organization—Chicago party, Stedman and MacCartney of Massachusetts; Bonds of New York; Springfield party, Hoehn of Missouri; Independent, Robinson of New York; Morgan of Ohio; Bonds of Kentucky; Independent, Robinson of New York.

Late in the afternoon permanent organization was effected and Comrade Herron elected chairman for the day, with Comrade William Mailly permanent secretary.

Secretaries' Reports.

The first order of business Tuesday morning was the election of the chairman for the day, and the choice fell upon Comrade J. F. Carey. The secretaries of the national parties then offered their reports, which were read and accepted. The report of National Secretary Butcher showed that the committee has granted charters to 137 new locals, with a membership of 1497, bringing the total number of locals up to 229. Reports from 147 locals showed a present membership of 7328, with 82 not reported. The total receipts were stated to be \$4187.06; total expenditures, \$4167.22, cash on hand, \$20.44. Due stamps had been sold to the number of 52,570. Liabilities were \$477.02, covered by assets of \$853.20, with a surplus on account of \$176.27.

National Secretary Theodore Debs reported for the Chicago S. E. B. The report showed receipts since January 1, 1901, of \$3707.01, and disbursements of \$3637.64. Liabilities for loans and salaries were stated at \$1083.55. He stated that a complete report would be given when the work of the convention is accomplished and his office transferred to successor. He expressed his hope that unity would be effected and said that when relieved from office, he would not be a candidate for any official position in the party.

F. G. Strickland was elected assistant secretary.

Resolutions on Porto Rico.

The resolutions committee, through Hoehn, reported a resolution by Santiago Iglesias, the delegate from Porto Rico, some objection was made to the phraseology, especially to the word "un-American," as applied to the treatment of the Porto Ricans by the administration—the delegates evidently being of the mind that such tyranny has now become very thoroughly American, as shown to the Comor d'Almeida and elsewhere in the United States. The word was finally stricken out and the resolution adopted as follows:

"Whereas, the wage-working people of Porto Rico are in a deplorable condition, owing to capitalist rule and exploitation;

"Whereas, the present administration, under the pretext of giving to Porto Rico a free government, is making every possible attempt to destroy the trade-union movement and prevent all labor and Socialist agitation;

"Whereas, the organized workmen of Porto Rico, and especially the Socialists, have been persecuted and ill-treated in the most shameful and disgraceful manner by the political and military tools of the present administration; therefore be it

"Resolved, that we hereby enter our most emphatic protest against the brutal action of the administration;

"Resolved, that we appeal to the organized wage workers of Porto Rico to continue their struggle for the right of organization and for the emancipation of labor;

"Resolved, that we appeal to organized labor of America to assist their hard struggling brothers of Porto Rico and to call a halt to the brutality and crimes committed by the administration against the working people of Porto Rico.

"Resolved, that we ask the American Federation of Labor to unite with the Socialists of Porto Rico in organizing the working class, industrially and politically, as their only hope of emancipation lies in such industrial and political organization."

Comrade Robinson (Kentucky) introduced a resolution requesting the delegates to patrolize union barber shops during their stay in the city and inviting the barbers to study Socialism. This was adopted.

One of the Indianapolis papers having printed a ridiculous report to the effect that Eugene V. Debs had been turned down by the convention, Hoehn of St. Louis introduced the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:

"Be it resolved by false newspaper reports. Unity convention is harmonious and enthusiastic. The union of Socialist forces will soon be an accomplished fact. Convention sends cordial greetings. You have our esteem and love now, as you have always had. Three cheers for the international Socialist movement and the social revolution. United we stand."

Later in the day the following reply was received from Comrade Debs:

"The expression of the convention is gratifying in the extreme. May a united and harmonious party crown your labors. I trust reports do not disturb me. I am a Socialist. A thousand thanks to the delegates for their personal expression. But for illness in my family, I would be with you."

To a large majority of the delegates who know that Comrade Debs is now strongly entrenched in the love and esteem of the people and of Socialists there ever before, the incident served as a passing amusement. His absence was deeply regretted by nearly all the delegates, irrespective of faction.

The Chicago Question.

One of the most interesting discussions followed the introduction of a resolution on the Chicago question. There were three different resolutions in the convention—Comrade J. F. Carey of Chicago, Comrade McKay of Indiana, and the two being coal miners. The resolution submitted by the committee was not satisfactory to these delegates, and they spoke in a manner which commanded attention and evoked loud applause. Their remarks showed a fine grasp of the situation and of the Social conception of the race question. The resolution was finally tabled. Comrade then introduced a resolution on the negro question, but this was also tabled, as the delegates believed it hardly suitable for agitation purposes. A special committee, consisting of Hampton, Lux, Costley, Washoppe and Sprague was then elected to draft an address to the negro voters, with the assistance of the colored delegates.

Main messages of greeting and congratulation were received during the day. Julius Zorn, national secretary of the United Brewery Workers, expressed himself thus: "Three cheers for international Socialism! We are for unity every time." Other messages were from the German branch to Philadelphia and from organizations and individual Socialists in Washington, Montana, Oregon, California and Texas.

The convention was now ready for the report of the committee on platform, which was read by Comrade Margaret Haile. The reading being finished, there followed one of the most interesting debates ever heard in a Socialist gathering in the United States. It related to the practical working programme or "immediate demands," the question being, "Shall the platform contain immediate demands?" The majority committee's report favored the demands. Comrade Simons, for the minority, moved to strike them out. He supported his motion in a speech that elicited loud applause from the "revolutionary" delegates. Hoehn of St. Louis followed in support of the demands. Then the chairman was kept busy for an hour making up the list of those desiring to speak and not less than thirty-five had their names put down. It was decided to take a vote at 11:45 Wednesday morning, also to hold a night session to permit full discussion on the motion.

Among those who spoke to retain the "demands" were McCarty, Berger, Goebel, Hillquit, Morgan and Stedman; against them were Murphy, Clements, McSweeney, Beckus and others. At the evening session Comrade Herron advocated the adoption of the explanatory clause which appears at the close of the platform and several of the opponents of "demands" expressed themselves willing to accept the platform practically as reported if this clause were inserted. Wednesday morning the debate was resumed until the hour arrived for taking the vote. The vote stood 5358 for retaining the demands and 1325 for striking them out.

The Platform.

The Socialists of America, in national convention assembled, reaffirm its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by the individual worker. Today the machine, which is but an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. This ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of livelihood and the poverty and misery of the workers, and it divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage-workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives to the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and to schools, and enables them to reduce the working men to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The Democratic, Republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertyed classes. While we declare that the development of economic conditions leads to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of transition of Socialism also depends

on the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We therefore consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better their condition, and to elect Socialists to political offices in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

AS SUCH MEANS WE ADVOCATE:

1. The collective ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines. No part of the revenue therefrom to be used on the reduction of the taxes of the capitalist class, but the entire revenue to be applied first, to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employees and then to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumers.

2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production, to decrease the share of the capitalist class and to increase the share of the workers in the product of their labor.

3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age, the revenue therefor to be derived from the government.

4. The inauguration of a system of public lodgings for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose, in order that the workers may receive the product of their toil.

5. The education of all children up to the age of 18 years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing and food.

6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.

7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in making these demands as steps in the overthrow of capitalism and in the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth, we warn the people against the public ownership demands made by capitalist political parties, which always result in perpetuating the capitalist system through the compromise or defect of the Socialist revolution.

When the debate on "demands" ended the vote was taken by roll call and stood as follows:

	For.	Against.
Chicago	1,347	142
Springfield	2,298	1,012
Independents	175	171
Total	3,820	1,325

Comrade Max Hayes of Cleveland was elected chairman of the day Wednesday. After the adoption of the platform the report of the committee on constitution was in order. The first paragraph, changing the name from Social Democratic to Socialist party, brought Comrade Berger to his feet. He moved to amend by substituting Social Democratic. After a lively discussion the convention adopted the paragraph as read and the name is the Socialist party of America.

National Constitution.

The constitution provides for a national committee of one from each state and territory, a national secretary with a salary of \$1000 a year, located at headquarters at St. Louis and establishes state autonomy. There was a disposition on the part of a few delegates to form a strong centralized organization, but an overwhelming majority followed the lead of the Chicago wing for state autonomy. The constitution as adopted reads as follows:

The name of this organization shall be the Socialist party of America, except in states where a different name has or may become a legal requirement.

There shall be a national committee, composed of one member from each organized state or territory, and a quorum of five to be elected from the membership of the locality of the seat of the committee.

The members of this committee shall be elected by and from the membership of the states or territories which they respectively represent by referendum vote. Their term of office shall not be more than two years and they shall take their seats in the month of January.

This committee shall meet in regular session not oftener than once a year. Special meetings shall be called at the request of a majority of members of such committee.

The duties of this committee shall be to supervise and direct the work of the national secretary, to represent the party in all national and international affairs, to organize unorganized states and territories, to call national nominating conventions and special conventions called by referendum of the party and to submit questions to referendum, to receive semi-annual reports from the state committees and to make reports to national conventions. Any member of the national committee not a member of the local quorum may require the secretary to submit to a vote of the whole national committee questions as to the removal of the local committee or the secretary, also for its consideration any part of the work of the secretary or of the local committee or any business belonging to the national committee.

The national committee shall elect a committee of five from the party membership of the locality selected for the party headquarters, to supervise and assist the secretary as the national committee shall require and direct. Said committee of five shall form part of and by a quorum of the national committee, but shall be subject to removal at any time by the national committee. On the question of removal the said local quorum shall have no vote. This committee shall neither publish nor designate any official organ.

The national secretary shall be elected by the national committee, and shall be subject to removal at its discretion.

In states and territories in which there is no central organization affiliated with the party and representing at least ten

local organizations in different parts of such state or territory, the secretary shall have the sole jurisdiction of the membership within their respective territories, and the sole control of all matters pertaining to the organization, its constitution and financial affairs within such state or territory, and the national executive committee and subcommittee or officers thereof shall have no right to interfere in such matters without the consent of the respective state or territorial organizations.

Expenses of the national committee in attending meetings shall be paid from the national treasury.

The national secretary shall be in communication with the members of the national committee, the officers of the organized states and territories, and with members in unorganized states and territories. The secretary shall receive as compensation the sum of \$1000 annually.

Headquarters shall be located at St. Louis. But said headquarters may be changed by the national committee, subject to a referendum of the party.

Each state or territory may organize in such way or manner, and under such rules and regulations, as it may determine, but not in conflict with the provisions of this constitution.

A state or territory shall be deemed organized and shall have a right to affiliate upon the organization of not less than four branches, each branch to consist of not less than five members. Each state or territory so organized shall receive a charter.

The platform of the Socialist party adopted in convention, or by referendum vote, shall be the supreme declaration of the party, and all state and municipal organizations shall, in the adoption of their platform, conform thereto.

The state committee shall pay to the national committee every month a sum equal to 5 cents for every member in good standing within their respective territories.

The secretary shall prepare a monthly statement of the financial and other business of his office, and when approved by the local quorum of five shall issue the same to all party organizations in such way as the national committee shall direct.

The national committee shall prepare a semi-annual report of all the financial and other business of the party and issue the same to all state and territorial organizations.

The state committees shall make semi-annual reports to the national committee concerning their membership, financial condition and general standing of the party.

The national committee shall also arrange a system of financial secretaries and treasurers' books for locals, the same to be furnished at cost to locals upon application.

This constitution may be amended by a national convention, subject to a majority referendum vote of the party or by a referendum without the action of such a convention, and it shall be the duty of the national committee to submit such amendment to a referendum vote within thirty days after being requested to do so by five locals in the different states.

All acts of the national committee shall be subject to referendum vote after the same manner as provided in the preceding section.

All propositions or other matter submitted for the referendum of the party shall be presented without comment.

The basis of representation in any national convention shall be by states, each state being entitled to one delegate at large and one additional delegate for every hundred members in good standing.

Comrade Philip S. Brown was elected chairman on Thursday, the last day of the convention.

Resolutions heartily endorsing the trades union movement were adopted and all Socialists urged to identify themselves with organized labor.

National Secretary Elected.

The report of the committee on constitution recommended that the convention elect a secretary and locate headquarters, and that when ten states have elected their national committees the national committee shall be considered formed, but no state shall elect its committee before the first of September, 1901.

In accordance with the above recommendation to elect a secretary Comrade Leon Greenbaum was chosen by acclamation.

The following St. Louis comrades were elected a provisional committee of five, to act until the election of national committees Feb. 22, 1902: Baird, Hoehn, Hillquit, Putnam and Dunn. The committee will also revise the proceedings of the convention. The proceedings were taken in shorthand by a professional reporter employed by the joint committee of arrangements.

To emphasize the fact that the various parties represented had formed a complete unity, subject to a referendum vote of the Chicago wing, the following resolution was adopted amidst great enthusiasm:

"Resolved, That the Social Democratic party, with headquarters at Springfield, Mass.; the Social Democratic party, with headquarters at Chicago; the Socialist party of the State of Texas, the Social Democratic party of the states of Kentucky, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, hereby surrender their separate and independent existence and merge and amalgamate into one organization."

The question of the location of headquarters came up Thursday at a time when many of the delegates had left for home. There was great interest shown in its settlement by those remaining. Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis, Indianapolis and Dayton, being mentioned.

Strong arguments were advanced in favor of Chicago as the most suitable place, but in the end St. Louis was chosen by a vote of 2610 against 2000. The delegates were then adjourned to Comrade Greenbaum's of Porto Rico.

The convention was adjourned on Friday, July 31, at 10 o'clock, after a session of four days and three nights. The delegates were all well and happy, and many of them were looking forward to the next party meeting upon the promise of state autonomy.

Other resolutions adopted were: "Resolved, That the Socialist party, in convention assembled, call the attention of the working class to the fact that our judiciary is but a servile tool in the hands of the capitalist class and hostile to the interests of labor, and we call upon the working class to use the ballot in defense of their own interests by voting the Socialist ticket."

The convention adjourned late Thursday night with songs and ringing cheers for the social revolution and the united party. Every comrade was, so far as we were able to learn, well satisfied with the result, although the opponents of "immediate demands" promise to keep on the fight on that issue.

With greetings to comrades everywhere the Herald now resumes its work for International Socialism and the Socialist Party of America.

Trades Unions and Socialism.

"The trades union movement and independent political action are the chief emancipating factors of the wage-working class. The trades union movement is the natural result of capitalist production and represents the economic side of the working class movement. We consider it the duty of Socialists to join the unions of their respective grades and assist in building up and unifying the trade, and labor organizations. We recognize that trades unions are by historical necessity organized on neutral grounds, as far as political affiliation is concerned."

"We call the attention of trades unionists to the fact that the class struggle so nobly waged by the trades union forces today, while it may result in lessening the exploitation of labor, can never abolish that exploitation. The exploitation of labor will only come to an end when society takes possession of all the means of production for the benefit of all the people. It is the duty of every trades unionist to realize the necessity of independent political action on Socialist lines, to join the Socialist party and assist in building up a strong political movement of the wage-working class, whose ultimate aim and object must be the abolition of wage-slavery and the establishment of a co-operative state of society, based on the collective ownership of all the means of production and distribution."

Convention Notes.

Eugene V. Debs was prevented by illness in his family from attending the convention. His views on the outcome will be found in an article written to the Herald, which appears elsewhere.

Theodore Debs was called away Wednesday by the death of Mrs. Debs' father at Denver, Col. He left Thursday morning for Denver, where he remained all of this week.

National Secretary Greenbaum's address is 4014 A Evans avenue, St. Louis, where the headquarters are temporarily located.

Comrade Herron contributed \$200 towards a fund to enable the committee to inaugurate its work.

Morris Hillquit easily took the lead of the Springfield delegates. He is cool and analytical, a clever phrasemaker and clear in the statement of his views.

Seven members of the Socialist party of Chicago went to Indianapolis on bicycles. They started Tuesday morning of the week before the convention and had a red-hot time in more ways than the weather imposed. At every important town on the trip propagand meetings were held.

Comrade McSweeney, who found himself in the majority on "immediate demands," made a hit in his ten-minute talk on municipal rabbits, municipal mutton and municipal cat-traps.

The delegates present from Chicago and representing the Social Democratic party were Mrs. Corinne Brown, Philip S. Brown, Theodore Debs, Seymour Stedman, C. T. H. Westphal, A. E. Edwards, W. J. McGweeney, Charles Tyt, J. A. Ambros, Wisconsin sent Elizabeth L. Thomas, Victor L. Berger, Emil Gold and A. B. Forman. Massachusetts was well represented by Margaret Haile and F. O. McCarty; Indiana by J. W. Kelly, James Oneal, Martin H. West and others; New York by M. Winchester; then came Ohio, Michigan, Connecticut, New Jersey, Missouri, Kansas and other states, running up the total number of delegates representing the Chicago wing to nearly fifty.

Indianapolis Journal's Comment.


The Indianapolis Journal, which published every day very good reports of the convention, had the following to say editorially:

"If the Journal correctly understands the object of the Socialist convention which met in this city yesterday, it is to harmonize and bring together on a common platform of action the different social organizations of the country and to enable them to present the same front to the world."



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WHAT DID DEBS SAY?

Many of the statements made by the capitalist press have been already refuted. But the fact that the press has been so busy refuting them is a proof of their truth. The press has been so busy refuting them that it has not had time to say anything about the fact that the press has been so busy refuting them.

That said and conservative old stump, Harper's Weekly, has been an attack on Debs. The editors of which has its office in the capitalist convention of patriotism, which is that whatever the capitalist class does in patriotism and the flag stands not for the freedom and aspirations of a people, but for the sanctified interests of a class.

For the enlightenment of the patriots of commercialism, it is well to recall exactly what Debs said. This we do, not with any hope that the patriotic significance contained in his simple words will penetrate their minds, but to show that their abuse strikes at the traditions and institutions the flag is supposed to represent, and not at the subject of their cordial dislike. This is what Debs said:

"On this day, commemorating the Fourth of July, 1776, the declaration of independence was issued. Thousands of orators all over this broad land will glorify the institutions under which we live. In pride they will point toward Old Glory and declare that it is a flag that waves over a free country. In these modern days we hear very much about that flag and about the institutions over which it waves. I am not of those who worship the flag. I have no respect for the stars and stripes, or for any other flag that symbolizes slavery. It does not matter to me what others may think, say or do. I propose to preserve the integrity of my soul. I will give a transcript of my mind and tell you precisely what I think. Not very long ago the President of the country, in the attitude of mock heroics, asked who would haul down the flag. I will tell him. Triumphant Socialism will haul down that flag and every other that symbolizes capitalist class rule and wage slavery. I am a patriot, not in the sense that I love my country, but in the sense that I love all countries."

Now, since the capitalist penmen do not agree with Debs, and since the proposition that the flag waves over institutions that have been perverted to the service of wealth, that everywhere—even in the Supreme Court—the constitution has been spurned and torn to shreds, is regarded as a musty, outgrown document, no longer suited to the requirements of a country dominated and controlled in every department of its government by the class which controls the economic interests of the land; since, in brief, the flag waves over slavery, does not even protect the negro thirty years after the war, is used to subject weaker peoples to the yoke of capitalism and for no other purpose, the point of the whole matter is that Debs spoke the truth. Truth never weighs against the economic interests of those in power.

Harper's Weekly is a traditional defender of slavery, for, as Debs says, when Wendell Phillips assailed slavery that paper condemned him as a traitor and wanted him punished.

ONE SUIT FOR SIX BOYS.

"They tell me you work for a dollar a day. How is it you clothe your six boys on such pay?" "I know you will consider it conceited and queer. But I do it because I'm a good financier. There's Pete, John, Jim, and Joe and William and Ned. A half dozen boys to be clothed up and fed. And I pay for them all good plain victuals to eat. But clothing—I only buy clothing for Pete. When Pete's clothes are too small for him to get on. My wife makes 'em over and gives 'em to John. When for John, who is ten, they have grown out of date. She just makes 'em over for Jim, who is eight. When for Jim they've become too ragged and old. She just makes 'em over for Joe, who is six. And when little Joseph can't wear 'em no more, she just makes 'em over for Bill, who is four. And when for young Bill they no longer will do, she just makes 'em over for Ned, who is two. So you see if I get enough clothing for Pete, The family is furnished with clothing complete. "But when Ned has got through with the clothing, and when He has thrown it aside—what do you do with it then?" "Why, once more we go round the circle complete, And begin to use it for patches for Pete."

—S. W. Foss.

The Class Struggle.

The Great Strike Ordered.

President Shaffer of the Amalgamated Association of Steel Workers promulgated the general strike order August 5, the same to go into effect after the last turn of the mills on August 10. It reads as follows: "Brethren: The officials of the United States Steel trust have refused to recognize as union men those who are now striving for the right to organize. The executive board has authorized me to issue a call upon all Amalgamated and other union men in name and heart to join the movement to fight for labor's rights."

"We must fight or give up forever our personal liberties. "You will be told that you have signed contracts, but you never agreed to surrender those contracts to the United States Steel corporation. Its officers think you were sold to them just as the mills were, contracts and all. "Remember, before you agreed to any contract you took an obligation to the Amalgamated association. It now calls you to help in this hour of need. "Unless the trouble is settled on or before Saturday, August 10, 1901, the mills will close when the last turn is made on that day."

"Brethren, this is the call to preserve our organization. We trust and need you. Come and help us and may right come to a just cause. Fraternally yours, "T. J. Shaffer."

The call goes to the vice-presidents of the districts in which there are mills owned and operated by the National Steel, National Tube and Federal Steel companies, as well as to the officials of the lodges in the mills.

No Sympathetic Strikers.

From Atlantic City, N. J., Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, is reported as saying that he did not look for a sympathetic strike. He gave evasive answers to all questions touching on the strike of steel workers. One of the officials of the federation stated positively that under no conditions could President Gompers or the executive council order a strike. He thought that before any such upheaval would take place that powerful influence would be brought to bear on the steel trust to adjust the issues.

On the other hand, Frank Morrison, secretary of the federation, while declaring that the council could not order a strike, said it could meet and issue advice to the constituent bodies. "I cannot say at this time," said Mr. Morrison, "what the American Federation of Labor will do to assist the Amalgamated association, and no other of our federations can, simply because it has not been decided what we will do. I am confident that we will co-operate to such an extent as our constituents may be necessary. Just what form this co-operation will take remains to be seen. It may be by contributions raised by voluntary subscription, and our constituent bodies may be asked to contribute."

may deem it expedient to go on sympathetic strikes. A boycott of the products of the United States Steel corporation is another means of bringing the trust to terms. The officers of the Amalgamated association who have been entrusted with the negotiations that have resulted in the general strike order to-day have gone over the situation carefully with us, and it is no secret that we understand each other."

The impression prevails in labor circles here that the general strike order initiates a terrific struggle between capital and labor, and that all labor organizations will soon be involved unless the steel magnates make concessions at an early date.

Later President Gompers was reported as saying at Pittsburgh:

"We shall stand by the Amalgamated association in the present conflict to the full extent of our power, both morally and financially; we shall aid in every lawful way the men on strike, or who may come out on strike to maintain the workers in their right to organize, and the extension of their organization, so that the only power which stands for their protection and advancement against the avarice of concentrated wealth may be perfected and perpetuated."

"When the overweening rich combine for avarice, power and tyranny, is it not the duty of the workers to unite for home, justice, right or humanity?"

Struggle of the Workers.

Bakers of Royersford and Spring City, Pa., have unanimously resolved to stop night work altogether.

The San Francisco Labor council has unanimously declared against the acceptance of \$750,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a public library.

The police commissioners of San Francisco have granted hundreds of permits to nonunion men to carry revolvers in the strike of the water front employees.

Chicago officials of the International Association of Machinists declare that in that city out of ninety-five firms all but eighteen have conceded the demands of the organization.

Thirty men prominent in the labor movement of Florida have disappeared from Tampa. The community is bewildered. It is believed the men have been taken away on an unknown vessel.

There is a plan on foot to form an advisory board to aid President Shaffer in carrying on the strike. It will be composed of national officers of the various trade organizations having headquarters in Pittsburgh.

Five hundred girls employed in the cloakmaking factories of Meyer Wessel, Rabel, Wild & Co., and several other manufacturers went on strike in sympathy with about 1200 men who are out for recognition of the union.

Members of Chicago Iron Foundry association are now offering a bonus of \$1 a day for members willing to take the oath of striking union men. Every day before lunch officers of the association draw lots to determine which men will be chosen to receive the bonus.

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SOCIALIST NEWS.

WISCONSIN. Milwaukee, Saturday, Aug. 25, 1901. The Socialist Party of Wisconsin is now in the midst of its annual convention. The convention is being held at the Hotel Milwaukee. The convention is being held at the Hotel Milwaukee. The convention is being held at the Hotel Milwaukee.

Socialist Party News.

A new branch of German workingmen has been organized at Orange, N. J.

William A. Kennedy is now business manager of the Haverhill Social Democrat.

A series of Thursday night meetings in the Academy of Sciences hall, San Francisco, are proving very successful.

The Socialist party has candidates for county officers nominated at Philadelphia. Headquarters are at 931 Callowhill street.

San Francisco Advance says State Organizer Scott Anderson reports successful meetings in the southern counties of California.

A reception was given to all the delegates to the convention from Chicago by the Ladies' Auxiliary society last Saturday night at the Socialist Temple.

"The Comrade," a new illustrated Socialist monthly announced to appear in New York, on September 15. It is to be a high-class literary paper for the home and will consist of cartoons, portraits, sketches, stories, poems and interviews.

Professor Emile Vinck will arrive in New York about the first of September with the purpose of making a lecture tour across the country as far west as arrangements can be made. Professor Vinck is a member of the faculty of the "New University" in Brussels, the most important socialist educational institution in the world. He is also the secretary of the Federation of Socialist Municipal Councilors of Belgium, and is without doubt the greatest living authority on socialist activity in municipalities. He speaks either French, English or German with equal ease, and is a fluent and eloquent speaker.

Milwaukee Basket Picnic.

The central committee of Milwaukee has completed arrangements for a basket picnic to take place at Sneider's park, Thirty-fifth and Violet streets, Sunday, August 25. The picnic committee has made every arrangement for the entertainment of those who will attend. There will be music, dancing, games, prizes and last, but not least, refreshments of all kinds, and everything else that conduces to a hot old time. The price, which includes all the refreshments to the full limit of one's capacity, is 75 cents per single man, or \$1.00 for the family. Let everyone bring his sweetheart, wife, children or some old chum and make this the jolliest time of the year.

PICNIC COMMITTEE.

Wisconsin Delegates' Report.

A meeting of Social Democrats was held last Monday night at Freie Gemeinde hall, Milwaukee, to hear the reports of delegates to the Indianapolis convention. There was a good attendance and plenty of enthusiasm. A committee of seven was elected to draft a state constitution, preliminary to reorganization to conform to the new conditions. Delegates Berger, Thomas, Seidl and Forman gave brief accounts of the convention work and short speeches were made by Comrades A. S. Edwards and Jesse Cox.

Labor Day at Milwaukee.

The Labor day celebration in Milwaukee will be an event in the history of the working class to be remembered. It is expected that between 10,000 and 15,000 men will be in line. Representatives of the council committee are endeavoring to secure excursion rates for the organized laborers of Beloit who will probably be in the procession 1200 strong. A. S. Edwards, associate editor of the Social Democratic Herald, has been secured as the principal speaker and there will also be short addresses by other speakers in various languages.

A dispatch from Cleveland, O., says the officials of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Brotherhood of Trainmen having headquarters in that city believe there is little probability of railway employees becoming involved in the steel strike. Both organizations mentioned have provisions in their constitutions that prevent sympathetic strikes, and neither organization is affiliated with any other organization in such a way as to make it possible for either to become involved in the strike of other organizations which are not directly involved.

John Burns, M. P., the British labor leader, speaking about the American strikes and the aggression of capital, a few days ago forecasted an Armageddon. If the trusts survive in the United States, they will be promoted more largely elsewhere until they dominate the earth. The Toronto Globe next day repeated the prediction of "an Armageddon of capital and labor." "It is the fight of a man in his cottage against the capitalist in his palace," said the Globe, "and men who engage in so hazardous a contest must have a profound conviction of the justice of their cause." The Globe's article is a prediction of defeat for the strikers and a condemnation of their tactics.

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